CAMPUS RADIO STATION?

by Thomas J. Cadwallader

Have you ever had the urge to be a disk-jockey, sportcaster, or radio announcer? The opportunity could be yours – if MSOE had its own radio station on campus.

There are several important advantages in having a campus radio station. First, such a station would provide a source of entertainment consistent with the specialized tastes of a large student audience. In this sense, it would be "personalized" to its listeners which is beyond the capability of other commercial stations. Secondly, such a station would serve as a campus news voice, keeping students informed of the activities of various clubs, fraternities, social organizations, etc. In this manner, it would provide a genuine service to its listeners. Thirdly, the station would present students a valuable opportunity to obtain experience and training in the field of radio broadcasting.

From the standpoint of simplicity and economy, the ideal choice for a campus transmission medium would be the carrier-current system, which is now being employed at more than 150 colleges across the country. In such a system, the utility power wiring serves as the r-f carrier; no transmitting antenna is needed. One or more small transmitters are used, depending upon the area to be covered. These transmitters broadcast on an unused AM channel with power output of one to two watts.

There are several distinct advantages to the carrier-current system over the conventional method of AM broadcasting. Since the amount of radiated power is relatively low, FCC regulations permit operation of such a station without a license (Part 15, Section 15.7, Volume II, FCC Rules And Regulations). This in turn would mean that students themselves would require no special license in order to operate the station's equipment, and a "station engineer" would not be needed. This would allow virtually anyone the opportunity of participating in the station's operation.

There are further advantages to the carrier-current system. Equipment need not conform to the stringent requirements impressed upon regular broadcast stations – equipment may therefore be relatively inexpensive. Indeed, some could easily be constructed by students themselves at considerable savings. The station would not be required to broadcast throughout the entire year and could suspend operations during the summer recess allowing a flexible schedule to be maintained.

Although a carrier-current station is not a "broadcast station" in the usual sense, it retains some important advantages of such a station. It can, for example, sell commercial advertising, and therefore become largely self-supporting. It is also eligible to receive free promotional records from the major record companies, thus enabling it to build a substantial music library.

With the completion of the second residence hall late this year, a "captive audience" of nearly 900 students will exist on the MSOE campus – more than enough to justify the services of a campus station. With proper scheduling and reasonable participation, no one student would be required to spend more than an hour or two per week contributing to station operations. In short, the operation of a campus radio station at MSOE is both desirable and feasible. To become a reality however, support from all students will be needed. Your comments and suggestions are invited.

MSOE Sports

INTERFRATERNITY BASKETBALL

Our inter-frat league played its last game on Monday January 30. This was the last of a series of seven games played at the gym of Riverside High School. These are the final standings of the regular competition games.

	W	L
AMS	7	0
KHK	6	1
Highlanders	5	2
TIE	4	3
SPR	3	4
Vanguards	2	5
DPZ	1	6
Triangle	0	7

The first set of elimination games was played on Monday Feb. 6. In this set of games, first-ranked AMS beat eight-ranked TIE; second-ranked KHK beat the fourth-ranked Highlanders; and seventh-ranked Triangle beat the third-ranked Vanguards.

The second set of elimination games was